

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



March 20, 2002

Ms. Alicia Torre  
Calpine Corporation  
4160 Dublin Boulevard  
Dublin, CA 94568

Dear Ms. Torre:

**RE: EAST ALTAMONT ENERGY CENTER SIXTH SET OF DATA REQUESTS**

Pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716, the California Energy Commission requests the information specified in the enclosed data requests. The information requested is necessary to: 1) more fully understand the project, 2) assess whether the facility will be constructed and operated in compliance with applicable regulations, 3) assess whether the project will result in significant environmental impacts, 4) assess whether the facilities will be constructed and operated in a safe, efficient and reliable manner, and 5) assess potential mitigation measures.

This sixth set of data requests (#153-160) is being made in the areas of biological resources, cultural resources, and transmission system engineering. Written responses to the enclosed data requests are due to the Energy Commission staff on or before April 20, 2002, or at such later date as may be mutually agreed upon.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send a written notice to the Committee and me within 10 days of receipt of this notice. The notification must contain the reasons for the inability to provide the information or the grounds for any objections (see Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716 (f)).

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed data requests, please call me at (916) 657-4394.

Sincerely,

Cheri L. Davis  
Energy Facility Siting Project Manager

Enclosure

cc: Docket (01-AFC-4)  
Proof of Service List

**EAST ALTAMONT ENERGY CENTER (01-AFC-4)**  
**DATA REQUESTS**

**Technical Area: Biological Resource**

**Author:** Andrea Erichsen

**BACKGROUND**

On February 6, 2002, the Applicant submitted Supplement C, which outlined a change to the preferred gas pipeline route. As a result of this change, the pipeline is proposed to be installed within sensitive biological habitat. Staff requests additional information in order to review the potential impacts of this proposed route.

**REQUEST**

153. Please provide a detailed and thorough list of mitigation measures for all listed species as related to the installation, operation, and maintenance of the newly proposed gas pipeline route.
154. Please verify that the final habitat mitigation package includes mitigation for permanent and temporary habitat impacts due to installation and operation of the new gas pipeline route.

**Technical Area: Cultural Resources**

**Author:** Dorothy Torres

**NOTE: Please submit any information that may reveal archaeological site location under confidential cover.**

**BACKGROUND**

In a consultation with the Santa Rosa Rancheria, Mary Barger and David Vader, (Western) received a request that an ethnography be conducted in the project area. Fresno State was identified as an entity already working with the tribe to write an ethnography. Staff's understanding is that the tribe finds it acceptable to have the ethnography completed after the project is permitted.

**DATA REQUEST**

155. Please provide an estimated time frame and a plan for conducting an ethnography concerning Native Americans within a three mile radius of the East Altamont Project area.

**Technical Area: Transmission System Engineering**

**Author:** Ajoy Guha, P. E.

Technical senior: Al McCuen

**EAST ALTAMONT ENERGY CENTER (01-AFC-4)**  
**DATA REQUESTS**

**BACKGROUND:**

Staff observes the following new overload violations in the Detailed Facility Interconnection Study (DFIS) Report:

- N-0 Condition with pre-project to post-project Loading and delta:  
Los Banos 230/70 kV transformer bank: 123.53 to 126.23% - an increase of 2.7%.  
Panoche 230/115kV transformer Bank: 137.09 to 138.08% - an increase of 0.99%.  
Panoche-Panoche 2M 230 kV line: 138.27 to 139.19% - an increase of 0.92%.
- N-1 Conditions with pre-project to post-project Loading and delta:  
Los Banos 230/70 kV Transformer bank: 111.86 to 115.09% - an increase of 3.15%.  
(Outage - New Melones- Wilson 230 kV line)  
Panoche- Panoche 2M 230 kV line: 131.76 to 134.65% - an increase of 2.89%.  
(Outage - New Melones- Wilson 230 kV line)
- N-2 Conditions with pre-project to post-project Loading and delta:  
Panoche-Panoche 2M 230 kV line: 138.9 to 140.9% - an increase of 2.0%.  
(Overloaded for 4 contingencies, most severe: Tracy 230 kV East Bus section)  
Panoche 230/115kV transformer Bank: 137.7 to 139.8% - an increase of 2.1%  
(Overloaded for 5 contingencies, most severe: Tracy 230 kV East Bus section)  
Los Banos 230/70 kV Transformer bank: 122.1 to 127.4% - an increase of 5.3%.  
(Overloaded for 3 contingencies, most severe: Tracy 230 kV East Bus section)  
Bonnie - Drum 60 kV Line: 113.01 to 115 .33% - an increase of 2.32%.  
(Overloaded for 2 contingencies, most severe: Tracy-Tesla and Tracy-Los Banos 500 kV Lines)  
Bonnie - Capehorn 60 kV Line: 107.83 to 110.11% - an increase of 2.28%.  
(Overloaded for 3 contingencies, most severe: Tracy-Tesla and Tracy-Los Banos 500 kV Lines)

**DATA REQUESTS:**

156. Please identify the mitigation measures required to resolve the above overload criteria violations in consultation with Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (PG&E), the transmission owner (TO).
157. Please identify the mitigation measures required to resolve the overload criteria violations in the Sacramento Municipal Utility District's system (for Proctor-Hedge and Elverta S. – Natoma S. 230 kV lines) in consultation with SMUD, the TO.
158. Please submit letters from PG&E and SMUD, along with your comments if any, indicating their acceptance of the proposed transmission system mitigation.
159. If the downstream facilities require modifications, reconductoring or any other change, please provide routes and detailed environmental analysis (including other

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technical areas related to transmission) and recommended mitigation measures for any potential impacts.

160. Please arrange to docket the following materials, if not yet done, with the Commission:
- a. The DFIS report by Western with all appendices and attachments.
  - b. PG&E mitigation letter of 12/19/02.
  - c. Mitigation letters from SMUD and MID (if available) with your comments.